



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

STATE HOUSE • BOSTON 02133

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MITT ROMNEY
GOVERNOR

KERRY HEALEY
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

~~HD 4620~~

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June 30, 2005

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

I am filing for your consideration "An Act to Encourage the Registration of Sex Offenders."

In 2003, the legislature enacted a \$75 annual fee for sex offenders to register with the Massachusetts Sex Offenders Registry Board. I voiced my objection to the law then because the Commonwealth should not give sex offenders any excuse to not register with the state. Today, we have over 4,600 sex offenders who are not in compliance with our registration requirements.

The disincentive to registration created by this fee undermines the central imperative for the creation of the Sex Offender Registry, and outweighs any benefits the Commonwealth may see from these dollars. I urge your prompt and favorable action on this recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature of Mitt Romney in black ink, written in a cursive style.

Mitt Romney
Governor



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND FIVE

AN ACT TO ENCOURAGE THE REGISTRATION OF SEX OFFENDERS

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 178Q of chapter 6 of the General Laws is hereby repealed.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect immediately.